

MINUTES OF THE MALDEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE RETREAT
Friday, November 18, 2016
Saturday, November 19, 2016
Malden Senior Center 7 Washington Street

November 18, 2016

Mayor Christenson called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

Mayor Christenson led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for those who have served our country and for those who continue to do so.

Roll Call

The following attendance was taken:

Mayor Christenson	Present
Ms. Beardsley	Present
Ms. Bordonaro	Present
Mr. Drummey	Present
Mr. Froio	Present
Mr. Iovino	Present
Mr. Leone	Present
Mr. Marsh	Present
Mr. Silverman	Absent
Superintendent Grandson	Present
Clerk	Present

Mayor Christenson called upon Superintendent Grandson to provide a brief overview of the retreat objectives and agenda. The objectives were to coalesce as a unified and synergistic governance team focused on student achievement; develop processes and protocols for effective communication to meet the needs of all team members and ensure a well-functioning school system; understand key areas of responsibility of district leaders; and develop a shared understanding of FY18 budget development and priorities.

Discussion

1. Governance Team Communication

Mr. Glenn Koocher, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees discussed the School Committee roles and responsibilities as well as communications with the governance team. Topics covered included personnel and administrative functions, lines of authority and policy making. Many relevant examples were highlighted.

2. Processes and Procedures

Mr. Arthur Lariiev, ELL Consultant presented the English Language Learners (ELL) Program Internal Review. Areas of need were identified.

Mr. Howard Greenspan provided a brief overview on the School Committee governance and regulations. Areas covered were collective bargaining, new regulations, executive sessions, open meeting law and ethics.

Adjournment

Mr. Iovino made a motion to adjourn at 8:08 pm. Mr. Marsh seconded and it was so VOTED.

November 19, 2016

Mayor Christenson called the meeting to order at 9:16 am.

Mayor Christenson led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for those who have served our country and for those who continue to do so.

Roll Call

The following attendance was taken:

Mayor Christenson	Present
Ms. Beardsley	Present
Ms. Bordonaro	Present
Mr. Drummey	Present
Mr. Froio	Present
Mr. Iovino	Present
Mr. Leone	Present
Mr. Marsh	Present
Mr. Silverman	Absent
Superintendent Grandson	Present
Assistant Superintendent Keenan	Present
Assistant Superintendent Johnson	Present
Finance Director Mertz	Present
Clerk	Present

Mayor Christenson invited Superintendent Grandson to recap the retreat objectives and agenda before continuing to the next portion of the meeting agenda.

Discussion

1. District Updates

Superintendent Grandson spoke about the district's vision, goals and the Superintendent's Entry Plan. One of the ways to encourage interaction with the community is for the Superintendent to attend community engagement events with a school committee member. The modern superintendent needs to balance between going out to engage with the community and being in the office managing day-to-day operations. The need to be academically focused is also critical. Malden is a stand-alone district among neighboring districts because of the rich diversity. The district strategic plan needs to focus on student achievement, social emotional needs, early

childhood as well as teaching and learning. Malden Public Schools is involved in many endeavors such as PISA, Mapping Malden, NAP and RIDES. Superintendent Grandson mentioned that by December 2016, there will be a working draft of goals and evaluation for Superintendents Professional Practice. There will also be a student achievement goal. There is a challenge with working with the MCAS and PARCC results because they do not relate to each other very well. Possibility of bringing in interns, building partnerships with colleges, etc. was discussed to help teachers who are overwhelmed by the large number of students in their class.

Assistant Superintendent Keenan presented the curriculum, assessment and instruction update. The new evaluation model for teachers was discussed. Everything that happens during the teacher's day in school, not just the classroom is measured and counted towards the teacher evaluation. This puts the ownership on the teacher. Professional development, school dropouts, state standards, 5 District Partnership, Urban Superintendents, student surveys and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which is going to replace No Child Left Behind (NCLB) was discussed. Assistant Superintendent Johnson provided the student support services update. The topic of autism was discussed. Children with autism are being identified at a younger age. Malden Public Schools is striving to keep as many students as possible in-district by continuing to provide quality programs.

2. Budget Development and Timeline

FY 2018 budget development and timeline was presented by Superintendent Grandson and Finance Director Ms. Mertz. The budget is being watched closely so that all available money can be used by the end of the year. The 5-year capital plan for custodial services and SEIU collective bargaining were highlighted. The FY18 budget timeline starts in November and the goal is to present the proposed budget to City Council by early June. FY18 budget priorities include academic interventions, curriculum development and the special education reserve fund. School Committee members added health curriculum with a focus on substance policy, driver's education curriculum, librarians, middle school programs, transportation, additional classroom space, sports teams and hiring additional director level personnel for the school system. Mayor Christenson asked for a better layout of the budget.

Deliberations

1. High School Safety Monitor – Mr. Leone

Mr. Leone stressed the importance of ensuring that there is a Safety Monitor at the High School to cover the days when Bunker Hill College programs are not in session. Mr. Marsh made the motion to discuss the Safety Monitor position and Mr. Leone seconded. Motion passed unanimously. After the discussion, Mr. Drummey made the motion to decide on filling the position of Safety Monitor. Mr. Marsh seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Beardsley voted YES

Ms. Bordonaro voted NO

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. Froio voted NO

Mr. Iovino voted YES

Mr. Leone voted NO

Mr. Marsh voted YES

Mayor Christenson voted YES

Motion carries 5-3.

When it was highlighted that filling this position with internal staff must be examined more thoroughly since it will depend on ethical compliance and union approval, Superintendent Grandson asked for conditional approval to go ahead with this effort if the ethics commission and union do not have any reasons as to why this cannot be done. Mr. Iovino made a motion to allow Superintendent Grandson to move forward with hiring a safety monitor internally provided that the ethics commission and union provide approval. Mr. Leone seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Beardsley voted YES

Ms. Bordonaro voted YES

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. Froio voted YES

Mr. Iovino voted YES

Mr. Leone voted YES

Mr. Marsh voted YES

Mayor Christenson voted YES

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Subcommittee Membership – Mr. Leone

Mr. Leone posed the question as to whether the Budget Subcommittee membership can be increased from four to five members as this will ensure that there will be no deadlock when votes are taken. Upon further discussion and members' feedback, Mr. Marsh made the motion to increase the Budget Subcommittee membership from four to five members. Mr. Iovino seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

1. Superintendent Search

Mayor Christenson introduced Ms. Luise, Special Assistant to Mayor Gary Christenson, to speak about the search process. Ms. Luise mentioned that the process must start from the School Committee. Factors that need to be considered will be how big the search will be and who the members of the search team would be. The goal was to decide on the model for the search.

Mr. Koocher mentioned that most search committees have representatives from the School Committee. However, the search committee cannot be the School Committee. Once the search committee is selected and finalists are decided, the community can be involved.

Mr. Iovino made the motion to use the 9-11 member search committee model. Mr. Marsh seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The suggested composition of the search committee is 1 teacher, 2 principal/assistant principal/director, 1 city councilor, 3 school committee members, 1 student representative, 1 parent of a special education student, 1 parent and 1 member from the business community. The chair of the school committee should be the chair of the search committee. Mr. Marsh made a motion to accept the composition of the search committee. Mr. Leone seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Bordonaro, Mr. Leone and Mr. Drummey volunteered to be on the search committee. Mr. Froio made a motion to nominate Ms. Bordonaro, Mr. Leone and Mr. Drummey for the search committee. Mr. Marsh seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

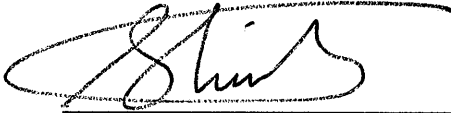
2. Next Steps

Public will be notified that a search committee is going to be formed. The position will be advertised in December and after due process, the finalist would be selected by the end of February.

Adjournment

Mr. Marsh made a motion to adjourn at 12:41 pm. Ms. Bordonaro seconded and it was so VOTED.

I certify that a notice of this meeting was filed with the Clerk of the City of Malden in the manner provided under Chapter 39, Section 23A of the General Laws.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shirley", written over a horizontal line.

Shirley Dorai, Clerk